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# Celebration of the two hundredth anniversary of the incorporation of the town of Newton, Massachusetts, December 27, 1888

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# Two Hundredth Anniversary of Newton, 1888

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# Celebration of the Two Hundredth Anniversary of the Incorporation of the Town of Newton, Massachusetts, December 27, 1888.

PUBLISHED BY ORDER OF THE CITY COUNCIL.
UNDER DIRECTION OF THE CITY CLERK.

Boston, Printed by
Avery L. Rand, eighteen
hundred and ninety-one

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## CITY OF NEWTON.

(11030) MAYOR'S OFFICE, CITY HALL,
WEST NEWTON, MASS., Oct. 12, 1888.

TO THE CITY COUNCIL:

*Gentlemen*,— Newton was incorporated as a town in the year 1688. This being the two hundredth anniversary of that important event, I recommend that a committee be appointed to make arrangements for an appropriate celebration, and that a reasonable appropriation be made to defray necessary expenses therefor.

J. WESLEY KIMBALL, *Mayor*.

## CITY OF NEWTON.

(11048)

IN THE BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN, Nov. 12, 1888.

*Ordered*, That a Committee, to consist of His Honor the Mayor, three Aldermen, and such members as the Common Council may join, be and is hereby appointed to arrange for the celebration of the two hundredth anniversary of the incorporation of Newton as a town, and that the sum of $250, to be charged to Miscellaneous Expenses, be and is hereby appropriated to meet the expenses of such celebration, to be expended by the Committee herein appointed.

Adopted. Aldermen George Pettee, Edwin O. Childs, and John Ward appointed, on the part of the Board of Aldermen.

ISAAC F. KINGSBURY, *Clerk*.

Adopted in concurrence by the Common Council. Councilmen President Heman M. Burr, Frank J. Hale, Ephraim S. Hamblen, and Lawrence Bond appointed.

JOHN C. BRIMBLECOM, *Clerk*.

Approved Nov. 14, 1888.

J. WESLEY KIMBALL, *Mayor*.

## CITY OF NEWTON.

(11163)

IN THE BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN, Dec. 31, 1888.

*Ordered*, That the City Clerk be and is hereby requested to prepare a memorial volume of the celebration, Dec. 27, 1888, of the two hundredth anniversary of the incorporation of the town of Newton, and that five hundred copies of the same be printed for the use of the City Council and for distribution as follows,—one copy each to the Smithsonian Insti-

tute, Washington, D.C., the State Library, the Newton Free Library, and the clerk of the towns of Brookline, Watertown, Weston, Wellesley, and Needham, and the clerk of each city of the Commonwealth,— the cost of same not to exceed $150, to be charged to the appropriation for Miscellaneous Expenses.

Adopted. ISAAC F. KINGSBURY, *Clerk.*

Adopted in concurrence by the Common Council.

JOHN C. BRIMBLECOM, *Clerk.*

Approved Jan. 7, 1889.

J. WESLEY KIMBALL, *Mayor.*

## CITY OF NEWTON.

(12151)

CITY HALL, WEST NEWTON, MASS., Dec. 30, 1889.

TO THE CITY COUNCIL:

By an order (11163) approved Jan. 7, 1889, the City Clerk was authorized to prepare a memorial volume of the two hundredth anniversary of the incorporation of the town of Newton, and the sum of $150 was appropriated for printing five hundred copies of same for use of the City Council and other distribution. The copy for printing could not be obtained till late in the year, and it appears that the amount appropriated is not sufficient to publish the volume in suitable or acceptable form.

A fair estimate of the additional amount needed is $125.

Respectfully submitted,

ISAAC F. KINGSBURY, *City Clerk.*

## CITY OF NEWTON.

(12162)

IN THE BOARD OF MAYOR AND ALDERMEN, Dec. 30, 1889.

*Ordered,* That the sum of $125 be and is hereby appropriated in addition to the sum of $150 already appropriated for the publication, by the City Clerk, of the memorial volume of the two hundredth anniversary of the incorporation of the town of Newton, said amount to be charged to the appropriation for Miscellaneous Expenses.

Adopted. ISAAC F. KINGSBURY, *Clerk.*

Adopted in concurrence by the Common Council.

JOHN C. BRIMBLECOM, *Clerk.*

Approved Dec. 31, 1889.

HEMAN M. BURR, *Mayor.*

THE celebration of the two hundredth anniversary of the incorporation of the town of Newton, covering so long a period, filled to repletion with historical interest and crowned with abundant prosperity, suggested difficulties as to the the character the celebration should assume. The season of the year precluded any out-of-door demonstration; and it was finally determined to confine the observance to a public meeting in the City Hall on the afternoon of December 27, to be followed by a banquet at Woodland Park Hotel.

The Committee, in the performance of the most agreeable duty assigned them, met with ready response from those invited to take part in the exercises, and the people gathered with devout gratitude to the Giver of all good for the mercies of the past and present, filled with hope and joyful expectation of blessings yet to come. Participating in the sentiments of the day, greetings are hereby recorded to those of the far-off future who shall "dwell in the land," successors to our homes and firesides, when another period of two hundred years, with all its wonderful changes, shall have passed.

At the public meeting in the afternoon, the City Hall at West Newton was filled with an audience of the citizens of Newton, together with many invited guests; and the exercises were conducted substantially in accordance with the annexed programme.

The Germania Orchestra, under the lead of Emil Mollenhauer, and composed of the following members: —

*First Violins*, E. Mollenhauer, Carl Eichler; *Second Violin*, Percy C. Hayden; *Viola*, Julius Eichler; *'Cello*, Alex. Heindl; *Basso*, A. Stein;

*Flute*, Paul Fox; *Clarinets*, E. Strasser, P. Metzger; *Cornets*, Dr. R. Shuebruk, Benj. Bowron; *French Horns*, E. Lippoldt, E. Schormann.

rendered the following selections: —

1. Overture, "Mignon," . . . . . *Thomas*
2. Concert Waltz, "Promotionen," . . . . . *Strauss*
3. Romanza, "Awakening of Spring," . . . . . *Ch. Bach*
4. "Loin du Bal," String Orchestra, . . . . . *Gillet*
5. Grand selection from "Tannhäuser," . . . . . *Wagner*

Hon. Alexander H. Rice, a native of Newton and ex-Governor of the Commonwealth, was among those invited to be present; and the regret which he expressed in being compelled to decline was equally shared by those who had been privileged to listen to his public addresses.

For the Committee,

ISAAC F. KINGSBURY, *City Clerk.*

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# Y^E Two Hundredth Anniversary

Of ye

## INCORPORATION OF Y^E

# TOWNE OF NEWTON

CITY OF NEWTON, MASSACHUSETTS,

CITY HALL, WEST NEWTON,

Thursday, December 27, 1888.

# EXERCISES IN THE AFTERNOON,

COMMENCING AT HALF-PAST 2 O'CLOCK,

*His Honor, the Mayor, presiding.*

---

*Music.* GERMANIA BAND.

*Invocation.* REV. DANIEL L. FURBER, D.D.

*Music.*

*Introductory Address.* HON. J. WESLEY KIMBALL, Mayor.

*Address.* His Excellency the Governor, OLIVER AMES.

*Music.*

*Address.* HON. JAMES F. C. HYDE.

*Music.*

*Address.* LEVERETT SALTONSTALL.

*Poem.* REV. SAMUEL F. SMITH, D.D.

*Music.*

*Address.* JOHN S. FARLOW.

*Address.* HON. WILLIAM B. FOWLE.

*Address.* HON. JOHN C. PARK.

*Music.*

*Address.* OTIS PETTEE.

*Address.* JULIUS L. CLARKE.

*Audience will unite in singing America.*

My country, 'tis of thee,
Sweet land of liberty,—
  Of thee I sing:
Land where my fathers died,
Land of the pilgrims' pride,
From every mountain side
  Let freedom ring!

My native country, thee,—
Land of the noble free,—
  Thy name I love:
I love thy rocks and rills,
Thy woods and templed hills;
My heart with rapture thrills
  Like that above.

Our fathers' God! to thee,
Author of liberty,—
  To thee we sing:
Long may our land be bright
With freedom's holy light;
Protect us by thy might,
  Great God, our King!

*Benediction.* REV. GEORGE W. SHINN, D.D.

## TOWNE GOVERNMENT, 1688.

*Selectmen.*

LIEUTENANT JOHN SPRING. JOHN PRENTICE.
THOMAS PRENTICE, 2d. DEA. EDWARD JACKSON.
JOHN FULLER. ABRAHAM JACKSON.
THOMAS GREENWOOD.

## CITY GOVERNMENT, 1888.

*Mayor.*

J. WESLEY KIMBALL.

*Board of Aldermen.*

*President*, GEORGE PETTEE.

Ward 1. EDWIN O. CHILDS.
Ward 2. N. HENRY CHADWICK.
Ward 3. JAMES H. NICKERSON.
Ward 4. FREDERICK JOHNSON.
Ward 5. GEORGE PETTEE.
Ward 6. JOHN WARD.
Ward 7. JAMES W. FRENCH.
*Clerk*, ISAAC F. KINGSBURY.

*Common Council.*

*President*, HEMAN M. BURR.

Ward 1. HERBERT H. POWELL. ALBERT W. RICE.
Ward 2. JOHN A. FENNO. EDMUND T. WISWALL.
Ward 3. LAWRENCE BOND. HENRY H. HUNT.
Ward 4. FREDERICK J. RANLETT. EVERETT E. MOODY.
Ward 5. E. H. GREENWOOD. FRANK J. HALE.
Ward 6. HEMAN M. BURR. HENRY H. READ.
Ward 7. J. CHARLES KENNEDY. EPHRAIM S. HAMBLEN.
*Clerk*, JOHN C. BRIMBLECOM.

# PRAYER OF REV. DANIEL L. FURBER, D.D.

[Dr. Furber on rising for prayer remarked: "It was the custom of our fathers to stand during public prayer. If it shall seem good to you to do so at the present time, you will be honoring an ancient and venerable usage." The audience then arose, and prayer was offered as follows:—]

O Thou who art from everlasting to everlasting, our God and our fathers' God, we bow and worship thee. One generation goeth and another cometh, one century is gone and another has followed it, but thou art the same and thy goodness is the same to thy dependent creatures.

We have consecrated the hours of this day to the memory of thy distinguishing goodness to us as inhabitants of this favored city. How greatly hast thou blessed us! Surely the lines have fallen to us in pleasant places, and we have a goodly heritage. As we recount the blessings which fill our cup and cause it to overflow, blessings of religion and of education, of temperance and morality, of liberty and law, and all the institutions of beneficence and charity, we cannot forget that we have entered into the labors of other men whose character moulded our institutions, whose principles drawn from thy holy word are the foundation of the Christian society which we enjoy, and whose spirit lives in the air we breathe. We give thanks for their virtues formed amid hardship and privation, and for the strength of purpose and faith in thee which carried them triumphantly through the conflicts of their time; for the undaunted heroism with which they encountered and overcame a lurking savage foe, and for the patience, fortitude, and courage with which they endured the long struggle for independence. We give thanks for the patriotism of our own times, in which many of our neighbors and friends so freely offered themselves for

liberty and union. We give thanks for the men who at different times and in various branches of public service have lived lives of eminent usefulness, and who have been an ornament to our history,— for that apostolic missionary who brought the knowledge of salvation to the wigwams of the forest, and for all the faithful men who have ever stood in the pulpits of our town to proclaim the gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, or who have gone forth to labor as ministers or missionaries elsewhere.

And now we ask that whatsoever in the past is praiseworthy may be equally characteristic of the present and the future; that true religion may flourish, that we may have faithful ministers of the gospel, untrammelled instruction in our public schools, wise counsel in our city government. May our people keep in mind the virtues of their fathers, and in times of prosperity may they be kept from luxury and extravagance. Teach us the blessedness of Christian self-denial in doing good; and may the men of the future whose homes shall adorn these hills and slopes, our children and our children's children, to the latest generation, find in their own blessed experience that happy is that people whose God is the Lord.

Hear Thou our prayer offered in the name of Him who has taught us to pray, saying (the audience all joining), Our Father, who art in heaven, Hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done in earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

# INTRODUCTORY ADDRESS BY HIS HONOR MAYOR J. WESLEY KIMBALL.

We have convened to-day to celebrate an interesting and important event in the history of Newton,— the two hundredth anniversary of its incorporation as a town. It is appropriate that we should assemble to review its history and to consider its present condition, and from the past and the present to judge what may be its future. It will be interesting and instructive to trace the history and progress of the town for the two centuries; to observe its growth and development from a sparsely settled town, possessed of only moderate means, to a populous, substantial, and wealthy city; to note the many difficulties in both public and private affairs that were encountered by our fathers, the hardships endured, the sacrifices made, and the grand successes ultimately achieved.

The successes were won under adverse and discouraging circumstances. They were attained by ceaseless industry, the exercise of sound judgment, undaunted courage, and fidelity to the unalterable principles of equity and justice.

The fundamental principle of action which guided those who administered and co-operated in public affairs was to secure a government that would not only command obedience to law, but would also bestow the greatest good equally on all; one that would be worthy of the support of an intelligent and liberty-loving people.

Conforming to this idea, and appreciating the value of order and intelligence, the church was founded, so that religious and moral truths might be disseminated. The public school was established, that the youth of the land might so

be taught that they could skilfully engage in the various pursuits of life and understandingly perform the duties of citizens, that they might attain to the privileges and responsibilities and be eligible to the honors which may be conferred upon loyal American citizens.

Time has not changed the principle nor lessened the vigilance necessary to insure a permanent and good government and the peace and prosperity of a free people.

The exercise of constant care, the enactment of wise laws, and a liberal provision for general education are required now as then.

Let us pay our tribute of respect and regard to those who so long ago laid the foundation of our liberties and prosperity, who were devoted to the welfare of mankind, and whose lives were ennobled by heroic deeds.

They have long since passed away: and now in the resting-places of the dead sleep those who so actively and grandly performed the important and trying duties of their time. When we read their names inscribed upon the tablets erected to their memory, let us but speak their praises, and be thankful for the blessings they have bequeathed to us.

Nature, I think, has been partial to Newton in beauty and healthfulness of location. The diversified and charming scenery, the wooded hills, the picturesque valleys, the salubrious air, and the clear and sparkling waters of its lakes and murmuring brooks give it especial attractiveness to those who admire the beautiful in nature, and appreciate health and the strength and enjoyments derived from it.

Newton has now become large and prosperous, and holds an honorable place among the cities and towns of the Commonwealth. A liberal provision is made to supply the best means for the protection and safety of our people, and care is taken to suitably provide for their education, comfort, and convenience.

The rapid and substantial growth of the city, the increase in population and in the number of buildings, are evidences

that the policy which has been pursued was wise and beneficial, and that it has been generally approved.

We are surrounded by cities and towns of historic interest, having universities and schools of learning, and a great variety of enterprises and industries. We are so near the metropolis of New England, one of the finest cities in the country, and access to it is so easy and rapid, that those whose interests attach them there find it equally convenient and comfortable to have their residences here.

Judging from the past and present, and taking into consideration the natural advantages of location and the enterprise, wealth, and culture of our citizens, it may safely be predicted that the future of Newton is destined to be one of marked growth and prosperity, and that the many villages which at present are somewhat separated from each other will become united, making a compact, beautiful, and great city.

# ADDRESS OF HIS EXCELLENCY, OLIVER AMES, GOVERNOR OF THE COMMONWEALTH.*

*Ladies and Gentlemen,*— To-day you mark in this public manner the completion of two hundred years of growth as a separate civic organization. It is a pleasant and profitable custom to observe these anniversaries, and no enterprising Massachusetts city or town allows them to pass without fitting notice. Such commemorations as this are great teachers, putting in compact form the history of the past for the better instruction of the future.

Now that this republic has sixty-five millions of people within its borders, a vast amount of wealth and mighty material development, it is difficult for us to estimate rightly the sacrifices and sufferings of the days when those who dwelt here formed not even a town, but simply a settlement in the wilderness, cut off from European civilization by the ocean, and confronted by boundless forests and waste places.

I shall not attempt to review the history of this city, but I cannot omit saying something of its past. We know that it was settled early in the history of this part of our land, although it did not take a corporate name until nearly three-quarters of a century had elapsed from the landing of the Pilgrims. We know that it has ever been ready to meet any demands made upon it for the common good. In the days of our beginning as a nation, it did its part in promoting the general cause. In all our subsequent struggles for existence or for integrity as a nation, it has borne its part.

*The governor was accompanied by the following members of his staff, in uniform: Major-General Samuel Dalton, Adjutant-General; Colonel Albert L. Newman, aide-de-camp; Colonel Augustus N. Sampson, Assistant Inspector-General; Colonel Charles Wiel, Assistant Adjutant-General.

Through the changed conditions that have grown out of the War of the Rebellion, the extension of the railroad system, and the development of our industries, Newton has grown rapidly, but with a permanent growth. She is one of the most beautiful, as well as one of the most thriving, of the cities of the Commonwealth. As she has been in the past, she is now a community upon which reliance to do what is right, prudent, and just may be placed. In other words, she is a typical New England community. I but voice the sentiment of all her people in saying that Massachusetts is justly proud of the city of Newton.

This ends my official speech. But I will say a few words more to you, in strict confidence, not to be repeated out of this hall. I have discovered that there is a feeling of jealousy toward Newton all over the Commonwealth. It is not a malicious jealousy, but rather a jealousy of admiration. You have made your city so beautiful, you have constructed such fine roads, you have built such beautiful homes, your citizens are so highly cultured, that Newton has come to be regarded as the model municipality of the Commonwealth.

This is the testimony of many of the judges of the Supreme and Superior Courts. These justices are appointed, first of all, because they are men of sound judgment, because they are intelligent, because they are cultured, and because they know something of law. Often, after their appointment, as a matter of convenience, they seek new homes. Of course, they want the best. They investigate for themselves, and almost invariably they select Newton as the place of their new and permanent abode. This has so far become the rule that every new judge, who feels obliged to leave his old home, is expected to settle in Newton.

So, when a governor is called upon to name a judge, he will say to the friends of the candidate: "Do you desire him to leave your town, your county? Do you not know that, if I appoint him, he will surely move to Newton?" My advice to you is, Go on, and make your city as beautiful and as attractive as possible. If you continue to develop it, as you have,— and I have no doubt that you will do so,— I shall almost feel like coming here to live myself.

# ADDRESS OF HON. JAMES F. C. HYDE, FIRST MAYOR OF NEWTON.

It is fair to presume that all present know more or less of the history of their native or adopted town. In the brief time allotted me only a few facts can be touched upon, the suggestion of which may lead some to further study of the history of Newton. Might it not be profitable for the scholars in our schools to devote some attention to this history, so that they may become more familiar with the lives and characters of those who laid the foundations upon which we are building, and from whose planting we are reaping such rich fruits?

It is said by the historian that the settlement of Newtown — Cambridge — began in 1631. Its records commenced 1632; proprietors' records, 1635. Cambridge, or Newtown, embraced a very large territory, which was subsequently enlarged by additional grants. In 1635 the General Court granted to Newtown land embracing the territory of what has since been Brookline, Brighton, and Newton, though that portion that is now Brookline was afterwards set off to Boston, where it remained many years, until it again became Brookline.

In 1636, six years after the settlement of Boston, the General Court voted £400 for a school, or college, and the next year this school or college was located, by order of the same authority, at Newtown,— Cambridge. In 1638 Rev. John Harvard added £800 to the amount appropriated by the General Court, and his name was given to the college. In 1638 it was ordered that Newtown be called Cambridge, "in compliment to the place where so many of the civil and clerical fathers of New England had been educated."

The territory south of Charles River, embracing what was Brighton and Newton, was first called "the south side of Charles River," or the "South Side"; sometimes Nonantum, the Indian name. About 1654 it began to be called "Cambridge Village," and, later, "New Cambridge," and by authority of the General Court, "Newtown," after 1691; thus taking, after the lapse of years, the name of the old town of which this territory once formed a rather small part.

For the first ten years, only seven families had settled on this territory; and of these seven two were Jacksons (the first settler in 1639 was John Jackson), two were Hydes, one Fuller, a Park, and a Prentice. All these, with one exception, came direct from England. After these followed Parkers, Hammonds, Wards, Kenricks, Trowbridges, Bacons, Stones, and others, whose descendants are represented here to-day.

During the first twenty-five years from the time the first settler found a home south of the river, in what is now called Newton, twenty families had come in and located. In 1664 there were twelve young men of the second generation.

From the first settlement to the date of incorporation, a period of forty-nine years, fifty families had settled on this territory. Dr. Smith says: "The number of *freemen* within the limits of the town in 1688 was about sixty-five." Authorities differ as to the exact area of this part of Newtown. "In 1798," according to Homer, "it was reckoned to embrace 12,940 acres, including ponds." Another writer says that "in 1831 the town contained 14,513 acres."

In 1838 eighteen hundred acres of this were set off to Roxbury, and are now a part of Boston. In 1847 six hundred and forty acres were set off to the now city of Waltham, being that part of Waltham south of the river, and a few years ago a small portion near Chestnut Hill Reservoir was set to Boston, leaving, according to one estimate, 10,500 acres as the present area of Newton; or, by the other, 12,073 acres; or, if we add the two estimates together as given, and divide by two,—as modern juries do nowadays when they

want to arrive at a verdict,—we shall find 11,286 acres, which is probably near the fact.

The inhabitants of Cambridge Village knew what they wanted, and, knowing, sought to carry their point. During the last of the year 1654 or first of 1655, they took the first step toward gaining their independence, at which time they began to hold religious meetings for public worship in Cambridge Village, in the territory now Newton. They asked to be released from paying rates to the church at Cambridge, on the ground that they were to establish the ordinances of Christ among themselves, and distinct from the old town. The selectmen of Cambridge strongly opposed this division, and declared that there was no sufficient reason for such separation, and also, to quote their own words, "We hope it is not the desire of our brethren so to accommodate themselves by a division as thereby utterly to disenable and undo the Church of Christ with whom they have made so solemn an engagement in the Lord, which is apparent to us will be the effect thereof."

This was the beginning of a struggle for independence that lasted thirty-three or four years, and ended by the complete separation from the mother town. Let us follow this contest, step by step, until its consummation.

In 1656 the people of Cambridge Village, having been denied their request the year before, appealed to the "Great and General Court to be released from paying rates for the support of the ministry at Cambridge Church."

Of course the old town remonstrated, and the village people were given leave to withdraw, silenced for the time. They were not the men, however, to submit to what they believed to be an injustice, but quietly bided their time. Five years after, they presented another petition to the General Court, asking for the same thing.

They had been holding meetings for public worship for four or five years in a large room in a private house, and the year before this petition was presented (1660) had built the first meeting-house, which fact no doubt had its influence;

and so in 1661 the Court granted them "freedom from all church rates for the support of the ministry in Cambridge and for all lands and estates which were more than four miles from Cambridge meeting-house — the measure to be in the usual paths that may be ordinarily passed — so long as the south side of the river shall maintain an able ministry."

The year following the granting of this request, the line was so run and the bounds so settled between Cambridge and Cambridge Village as to settle the matter of ministerial support, and also to establish substantially what afterwards became the line between Brighton and Newton. These people had gained this point, and started a movement that was only to end with their entire emancipation from Cambridge. The first meeting-house was built in 1660 or 61, and located on Centre Street, opposite the Colby estate; and in July, 1664, when there were but twenty-two land-owners in the village, the first church was organized, and the Rev. John Eliot, Jr., son of the apostle to the Indians, ordained as its pastor. And this consummated the ecclesiastical, though not the civil, separation of Cambridge Village from Cambridge.

The congregation of this church was composed of about thirty families, with about eighty members in the church, forty of each sex.

Our sturdy ancestors were not yet satisfied; and so, in 1672, they again petitioned the General Court to set them off, and make them a town by themselves. In answer to this request, the Court in 1673 declared "that the Court doth judge meet to grant to the inhabitants of said village annually to elect one constable, and three selectmen, dwelling among themselves, to order the prudential affairs of the inhabitants there according to law; only continuing a part of Cambridge in paying County and Country rates, as also Town rates, so far as refers to the grammar school, bridge over the Charles River, and their proportion of the charges of the deputies."

This action of the Court they refused to accept and act under, by which they would merely have become a precinct, though this was quite a step in advance; for previous to this time the residents of the village had been permitted to hold few official positions.

At the session of the General Court commencing May 8, 1678, a lengthy petition was drawn up and signed by fifty-two freemen, setting forth many facts and humbly praying that they might be granted their freedom from Cambridge, and that they might receive a name, thus becoming a separate town. Cambridge remonstrated by their selectmen in quite severe terms. It declared that the petitioners "do not say words of truth."

"They knew beforehand the distance of their dwellings from Cambridge, yet this did not obstruct them in their settlements there, but before they were well warm in their nests they must divide from the town."

Alluding to what they had already been granted, and their repeated efforts to get free from the old town, they say: "All this, notwithstanding these long-breathed petitioners finding that they had such good success that they could never cast their lines into the sea but something was catched, they resolved to bait their hook again." They accused the freemen of the village of causing the old town "to dance after their pipes, from time to time, for twenty-four years, as will appear by the Court's record."

And again, to use their words: "He is a murderer if he takes away that whereby his father or mother lives, and this we apprehend not to be far unlike the case now before this honored Court." They go on to say further: "All parties of this nature are condemned by the light of nature."

"They who had grants from the heathen idolaters did not account it just that they should be dispossed by others; and idolatrous Ahab, although he was a king, and a very wicked king also, and wanted not power to effect what he desired, and was so burthened for the want of Naboth's vineyard that he would neither eat nor sleep, and when denied by his

own subjects, tendered a full price for the same; yet he had so much conscience left that he did not dare seize the same presently, as the petitioners would be, so great a part of our possession as this, were it now in their power."

They still further say that "those who live in town — Cambridge — are put to hire grass for their cattle to feed upon in the summer time, which costs them at least twelve or fifteen shillings a head, in money, for one cow, the summer feed: and corn land they have not sufficient to find the town with bread."

"Cambridge is not a town of trade or merchandise as the seaport towns be, but what they do must be in a way of husbandry; they having no other way of supply."

"We must be no town nor have no Church of Christ nor ministry among us, in case we be clipped and mangled as the petitioners would have."

Notwithstanding all this and much more of similar tenor, the General Court granted to Cambridge Village the right to choose selectmen and a constable and to manage the "municipal affairs of the village," substantially the same privileges that had before been granted in 1673, but which the village had never accepted. Dr. Smith says: "This was an important but not full concession on the part of the Court; but the people had to wait nearly ten years more before they fully attained the object of their desire. The attitude of the settlers in Cambridge Village was one of persistent determination; and, as if foreshadowing in those early days the spirit of the Revolution which occurred a century later, they stood firm in their resistance of everything which in their judgment savored of oppression."

Jackson says, "The first entry upon the new town book of Cambridge Village records the doings of the first town meeting, held June 27, 1679, by virtue of an order of the General Court," at which meeting three selectmen and one constable were chosen, thus doing what they were authorized to do in 1673. There is no record of another town meeting until Jan. 30, 1681.

It appears by articles of agreement made as late as Sept. 17, 1688, between the selectmen of Cambridge and the selectmen of the village, in behalf of their respective towns, referring to differences that have arisen as to charges for bridges, schools, the laying of rates, and some other things of a public nature, "that for the end above said the village shall pay to the town of Cambridge the sum of £5 in merchantable corn, at or before the first day of May next ensuing the date above, in full satisfaction of all dues and demands by the said town from the said village, on the account above said, from the beginning of the world to the 11th of January, 1688, by the present style of reckoning."

This brings us near the time when Cambridge Village was *incorporated*, as claimed by historians who have written later than Jackson.

We find in the records of the village that in 1686 "a committee was chosen to treat with Cambridge about our freedom from their town." It is undoubtedly true that Cambridge Village, in a large degree, became independent of the mother town in the year 1679, when, Jackson says, the town was incorporated; for they did from that time control the prudential affairs of the village; but it is equally true that they were *taxed together* for several years after, for State and county and for some other purposes. It is certain that they were not allowed to send a deputy to the General Court until 1688, when the separation was fully consummated. The records of Cambridge — the old town — show that constables were elected for the village after 1679, every year until 1688, but *none* for the village after the latter date. Paige's recent History of Cambridge seems to entirely clear all doubts as to the true date of the incorporation of Newton.

He was fortunate enough to find two documents which probably Mr. Jackson never saw. "One is an order of notice preserved in the Massachusetts archives," of which the following is a copy: —

"To the constables of the town of Cambridge, or either

of them; you are hereby required to give notice to the inhabitants of said town that they or some of them, be and appear before his Excellency in Council, on Wednesday, being the 11th of this inst. to show cause why Cambridge Village may not be declared a place distinct by itself, and not longer a part of said town as hath been formerly petitioned for and now desired: and thereof to make due return. Dated at Boston the 6th day of January in the third year of his Majesty's reign A.D. 1687 By order &c J. West, D. sec'y."

"What was the result of this process does not appear of record; for the records of the council, during the administration of Andros, were carried away. Fortunately, however, a certified copy of the order, which is equivalent to an act of incorporation, is on file in the office of the clerk of the Judicial Courts in Middlesex County."

At a council held in Boston Jan. 11, 1687, present his Excellency, Sir Edmund Andros, and seven councillors, an order was issued a part of which we give: "Upon the reading this day in the Council the petition of the inhabitants of Cambridge Village, being sixty families or upwards, that they may be a place distinct by themselves and freed from the town of Cambridge, to which at the first settlement they were annexed, they being in every respect capable thereof," it was "ordered that the said village from henceforth be and is hereby declared a distinct village and place of itself, wholly freed and separated from the town of Cambridge, and from all future rates, payments, or duties to them whatsoever." The order further provided how Cambridge bridge should be supported.

This order was signed John West, deputy secretary.

Then followed, "This is a true copy taken out of the original, 4th day of December, 1688: as attests: Laur. Hammond, Clerk." Dr. Paige adds: "There remains no reasonable doubt that the village was released from ecclesiastical dependence on Cambridge, and obligation to share in the expenses of religious worship 1661, became a precinct in 1673, received the name of Newtown, in December, 1691,

and was declared to be a distinct village and place of itself, or, in other words, was *incorporated* as a separate and distinct town by the order passed Jan. 11, 1687–8, old style, or Jan. 11, 1688, according to the present style of reckoning."

It seems very strange that such an error should occur and be perpetuated for nearly two centuries, the town even adopting it and putting it upon its seal, where it remained for six years.

After Cambridge Village was set off or incorporated, it was sometimes called New Cambridge, until 1691, when, in answer to a petition to the General Court, it was called Newtown, and the name was variously spelled, New-Town, Newtown, Newtowne, and Newton in the records, until 1766, when Judge Fuller became town clerk, and spelled it in the town records "Newton"; and Newton it has been ever since. We have devoted much time and space to establishing the facts concerning the incorporation of Newton, because Mr. Jackson in his history published, in 1854, gives the date as 1679, which has since been shown to be incorrect, both by Dr. Paige and Dr. Smith. After a careful examination of the facts we are fully satisfied that they have fixed upon the true date.

At this time ten of the first settlers had passed away.

Sixty families were dwelling within the limits of the town. We give a few brief items relating to the people living on these broad acres from 1639 onward.

In 1643 six acres of land were conveyed on payment of £5.

In 1645 "there were in all of Cambridge 135 ratable persons, 90 horses, 208 cows, 131 oxen, 229 young cattle, 20 horses, 37 sheep, 62 swine, and 58 goats."

"In 1647 the town bargained with Waban, the Indian chief and first convert to Christianity, to keep six score head of dry cattle on the south side of Charles River."

"1656, persons appointed by the Selectmen to execute order of General Court for the improvement of all families within the town in spinning and manufacturing clothes."

In 1650 wild land sold for one dollar and a quarter per acre.

1676, town meeting called to consider the matter of fortifying the town against Indians.

In 1691 first couple married in Newton after it was incorporated.

1693, town paid 20*s.* for killing three wolves.

The two following years paid a bounty for killing wolves.

1699, voted to build a school-house 14 x 16 feet.

1700, hired a schoolmaster at five shillings per day.

1707, paid twelve pence per dozen for heads of blackbirds. Voted to choose two persons to see that hogs were yoked and ringed according to law.

1711, voted to have collections taken up Thanksgiving Days for the poor.

1717, vote passed to prevent the destruction of deer. Same in 1741.

1796, voted to have a stove to warm the meeting-house. The same year, voted that the deacons have liberty to sit out of the deacons' seat.

1800, voted to disannul the ancient mode of seating parishioners in the meeting-house.

In 1646 Rev. John Eliot first attempted to Christianize the Indians at Nonanetum, or Nonantum, where a company of them were located on land that had been bought by the General Court of the white owners and set apart for the use of the Indians. This tract of high land was considerably improved by them by the building of wigwams, walls, and ditches about the same, and the planting later of fruit-trees.

By advice of Mr. Eliot, tools and implements were supplied, as well as money to enable them to develop and improve their village. Homer says: —

"The women of Nonantum soon learned to spin and to collect articles for sale at the market through the year. In winter the Indians sold brooms, staves, baskets made from the neighboring woods and swamps, and turkeys raised by themselves; in the spring, cranberries, strawberries, and fish

from Charles River; in the summer, whortleberries, grapes, and fish. Several of them worked with the English in the vicinity in hay-time and harvest."

The author of "Nonantum and Natick" says: "Here at Nonantum Hill was begun the first civilized and Christian settlement of Indians in the English North American colonies. This was the seat of the first *Protestant* mission to the heathen, and here Mr. Eliot preached the first Protestant sermon in a pagan tongue."

This was preached in the large wigwam of Waanton, or Waban, where a considerable number of Indians were assembled to hear this first sermon, which occupied over an hour in its delivery. The text was from Ezekiel xxxvii. 9, 10.

This Waban — whose name signified "wind," or "spirit" — was the chief man of this Indian village, and was called a "merchant." He seems to have been the man of business. "Perhaps he went to Boston sometimes to sell venison and other game which he had either taken himself or bought from other Indians." He was the first convert to Christianity, and lived a consistent life, dying in 1674, aged seventy years.

Newton thus enjoys the rare honor of having within its borders the spot made sacred by the labors of the apostle Eliot, whose saintly life and heroic service in the cause of the Master resulted in the civilization and Christianization of many of these sons of the forest. These Nonantum Indians seem to have been pretty bright and keen heathen, judging from some of the questions they put to the white men, a few of which are here given. One woman inquired "whether she prayed when she only joined with her husband in his prayer to God Almighty." Another inquired "whether her husband's prayer signified anything if he continued to be angry with her and to beat her." Another asked "how the English came to differ so much from the Indians in their knowledge of God and Jesus Christ, since they had all at first but one Father"; another, "how

it came to pass that sea water was salt and river water fresh."

The people of Newton from the very first took great interest in military affairs. The men of Newton took a prominent part in all the Indian wars. They were in King Philip's and subsequent wars with the Indians, as well as in the old French and Indian War. Some lives were lost in this service, among them Colonel Ephraim Williams, the founder of Williams College. He was shot in the memorable battle fought with the French and Indians near Lake George, in September, 1755.

Of the part taken in the War of the Revolution by the inhabitants of this town, it has been well said that, "almost to a man, they made the most heroic and vigorous efforts to sustain the common cause of the country from the first hour to the last, through all the trying events which preceded and accompanied the war."

Our fathers were jealous of their rights; and, while they were willing to stand by the government, they were not the men to submit to any injustice. From time to time they met in town meeting to consider important questions relating to the condition of the country. In December, 1772, a town meeting was held, and a committee appointed to consider and report what it may be proper for the town to do relating to the present unhappy situation of the country.

In 1773 they instructed their representative, Judge Fuller, to use his influence against the salaries of the judges of the Superior Court being fixed and paid by the *Crown* instead of by the *Great* and *General Court*. They were jealous of their rights, even though remotely assailed. It is probable that not a person in the colonies at this time seriously entertained the thought of taking up arms against the mother country, but relied upon constitutional methods only for the redress of their grievances.

Later, during the same year, a large committee was chosen "to confer with the inhabitants of the town as to the expediency of leaving off buying, selling, or using any India tea."

On Dec. 16, 1773, there was a famous tea-party in Boston, such as never was seen before nor has been since. Newton was represented on that occasion by two or more of its citizens. One in particular, who drove a load of wood to market, stayed very late that day, and was not very anxious the next morning to explain the cause of his detention; but, as tea was found in his shoes, it is not difficult to understand what he had been doing.

The following year, 1774, the town adopted a series of resolutions, declaring they would not voluntarily and tamely submit to the levying of any tax for the purpose of raising a revenue, where imposed without their consent or that of their representatives; and that any and all persons who advised or assisted in such acts were inimical to this country, and thereby incurred their just resentment, and in such light they regarded all merchants, traders, and others who should import or sell any India tea until the duty, so justly complained of, should be taken off. They further pledged themselves that they would not *purchase* or *use* any such tea while the duty remained upon it.

A committee was appointed to confer with like committees of sister towns as occasion required. During the same year the town voted that the selectmen use their best discretion in providing firearms for the poor of the town, where they were unable to provide for themselves. In October of the same year the town sent delegates to the Provincial Assembly at Concord, and the next year to a meeting of the same at Cambridge. Early in the year 1775, the town voted to raise men to exercise two field-pieces that had been given, and also to raise a company of minute-men, and thus be prepared for any emergency.

This action furnishes the explanation of the fact that Newton had so *many* men engaged in the battles of Lexington and Concord.

On the 19th of April, 1775, a day ever memorable in the history of our country, when the first battles of independence were fought at Lexington and Concord, Newton had three

organized companies of minute-men, all of whom were present and took part in the battles of that historic day, during which they marched about thirty miles.

The two hundred and eighteen men composing these three companies were not *all* that Newton sent to the battle-fields that day; for many went who had passed the military age and so were exempt from duty, but who felt as did Noah Wiswall, the oldest man who went from Newton, and whose son commanded one of the companies, and who had other sons and sons-in-law in the fight. He could not be induced to remain at home, because, as he said, "he wanted to see what the boys were doing," and, when shot through the hand, coolly bound it up with a handkerchief, and brought home the gun of a British soldier who fell in the battle.

Colonel Joseph Ward, a master of one of the public schools,—a Newton man,—took a very active part. On the 19th of April he left Boston for Newton, took horse and gun, rode to Concord, to animate and assist his countrymen. He also greatly distinguished himself at the battle of Bunker's Hill, where he served as aide-de-camp to General Artemas Ward.

Soon after these earlier battles two companies were raised in Newton. In March following, these companies with others took possession of Dorchester Heights, which proved a short service, as on the 17th of that month the British evacuated Boston, much to the joy of the good people of that town.

Soon after, one of these companies joined in an expedition to Canada. On the 17th of June, 1776, the first anniversary of a day made memorable in the annals of our country by the heroic struggle on Bunker's Hill, where Newton was well represented, and two weeks before the Declaration of Independence, our forefathers in this busy season of the year left their fields and quiet homes, and gathered in town meeting to discuss and pass upon a matter of vital importance to them, their posterity, and the world. At this town meeting, where Captain John Woodward was moderator, the

second article in the warrant was: "That in case the honorable Continental Congress should, for the safety of the American colonies, declare them independent of the kingdom of Great Britain, whether the inhabitants of this town will solemnly engage with their lives and fortunes to support them in the measure." After *debate*, the question was put, and the vote passed *unanimously*.

These bold and memorable words meant the sacrifice of comfort, fortune, home, friends, and life, if need be, for the right to govern themselves and enjoy the privileges of freemen. In winter's snows and summer's heats, the men of Newton, old and young, able and disabled, were found filling the ranks of the little American army. They formed a part of nearly every expedition, and were found on nearly every field, from the opening battles of Lexington and Concord to the final surrender of Cornwallis at Yorktown.

Newton, then a little country town with only about 1,400 inhabitants, entered upon the War of the Revolution with great vigor and spirit. Contributing liberally both men and means, as she always has done and always will do when her country calls, no town in Massachusetts can show a more honorable record. It is said by the historian that nearly every man in Newton served in the army some time during the war.

The history of the world scarcely affords a parallel to all our fathers did and suffered during the long struggle they endured in the sacred cause of liberty. Let us not forget that Newton enjoys the honor of having been the birthplace of one of the immortal band of men who signed the Declaration of Independence,— Roger Sherman,— a name embalmed in the hearts of his countrymen as well as on the pages of history.

Of the part Newton took in the War of 1812 little is known, but it is no doubt true that the sons of such worthy sires were not found wanting when the country was in need.

Let us briefly consider Newton in the war of the Great Rebellion. From the opening gun fired on Sumter April 12,

1861, until the close of the rebellion Newton nobly performed her part.

She furnished at least thirty-six commissioned officers, two generals, and 1,129 soldiers who formed a part of thirty regiments.

These men gave themselves to their country in the hour of her need, and went forth in her defence.

Where duty called, they were found,— whether amid the malaria of Southern swamps, on the march, leading a forlorn hope against the enemy, or in vile prison pens,— the mention of whose names brings a thrill of horror to all hearts.

They fell by the way on the long and tedious marches, they died of homesickness or wounds in the hospitals, they went down before the rush of the enemy and were killed or reported missing, and never again heard from. They endured privations and hardships such as we cannot comprehend; and they did it all without murmur or complaint for the love and respect they had for the heroes of '76, and their regard for the liberty and good name of their country, for their homes and firesides, and the still more tender regard for the dear ones in those homes whose prayers and good wishes never ceased to follow them amid all their sufferings.

They loved their homes and firesides as we do ours, but loved their country more.

The spirit that actuated them was well illustrated by one who said, "If my country needs my services, I am willing for her sake to make the sacrifice." This was Charles Ward, a worthy son of one of the first settlers, who cheerfully gave his life at Gettysburg.

Our ancestors early recognized the importance of education, and all through the two centuries that have passed since its incorporation Newton has made the most liberal appropriations for its public schools, thus standing in the front ranks among the many cities and towns of the Commonwealth.

In addition to all this it has within its borders a Theological Seminary of world-wide reputation, a seminary for young

ladies, and an English and classical school, as well as others of lesser note.

Early in the history of Massachusetts slavery was introduced, and it is not surprising that some slaves should have been found in Newton. The records show that at least thirty-six were mentioned in the inventories of deceased persons, and there were probably others. Slavery is supposed to have received its death-blow in Massachusetts, about 1783.

Newton, of course, in its early days was a purely agricultural town, and its farmers were prosperous and well-to-do for those times, and built for themselves here and there over its broad area homes that were comparatively comfortable, but which would hardly compare with many of the palatial residences which we see to-day.

But as early as 1688, the very year of the incorporation of Newton, a mill was built at Upper Falls, where there was a considerable waterfall on Quinobequin, or, later, Charles River.

Still later other mills were located along the river, some for the manufacture of lumber, cloths, nails, cotton goods, paper, and other articles, all of which helped to extend the industries of this growing town.

Fifty years ago, two of these manufacturing villages — Upper Falls and Lower Falls — exerted a controlling influence in town affairs.

The intelligent citizens of Newton early took a deep interest in the cause of temperance, and as early as Dec. 15, 1826, "a meeting was held which took active measures on the subject, and by a circular addressed to the inhabitants of the town sought to create a general interest in regard to it." Later, a constitution was adopted and the society received the name of the "Newton Friendly Society." This was probably the first local organization of its kind in New England, with one exception. This society afterwards established a library of several hundred volumes; and it also originated the Institution for Savings in the Town of Newton, now the well-known and prosperous Newton Sav-

ings Bank. The whole movement was conducted by the best and most influential men of the town.

In 1798 a library was formed at West Parish, called the West Parish Social Library; and it was provided that it should be of the value of $150 at least. The Adelphian Library, formed by the Temperance Society, was the next in order; and both of these were finally merged in the West Newton Athenæum in 1849, which library is in a prosperous condition to-day. In 1848 the Newton Book Club was formed, which later took the name of the Newton Literary Association, and from this small beginning has come the magnificent Free Public Library of Newton, which contains many thousand volumes. Large sums were contributed by individuals to establish this library before it became the property of the city.

There was a Free Library formed at Newton Centre in 1859, and in 1873 all the books were donated to the Newton Free Library. In 1869 a free library was established at Lower Falls, and subsequently one at North Village.

"In imitation of the churchyards of England, the first cemetery was around the first church." Later burial-grounds were located at West Newton, one near Upper Falls and one at the Lower Falls. Of these resting-places of the fathers, many interesting facts could be given, would time permit.

The growing town demanded additional provisions for the burial of its dead, and in 1855 the Newton Cemetery Corporation was organized, which has resulted in establishing one of the most beautiful rural cemeteries to be found in New England.

An attempt was made to divide this fair domain. The agitation began about 1830, and continued until about 1848–49.

Some of us can well remember the strong feeling that was aroused by the agitation of the subject, so strong as to alienate friends and lead to bitter words. Fortunately, no division was effected; and we have remained a united, prosperous, and happy people to this day.

As early as 1813, this town had a Fire Department, to which many of the prominent citizens belonged.

In 1842, the engines in use being too small, the town voted twenty-four hundred dollars for the purchase of four engines, provided each of the villages where the engines were to be located would add two hundred dollars more. A year later, a similar appropriation was made for another village. A steam fire-engine was purchased in 1867, another in 1871, and a third in 1873. This was followed by the introduction of the Electric Fire-alarm.

Fire apparatus of the most modern construction, with all necessary equipment, has made our Fire Department noted for its efficiency.

Newton, as a town and city, has always provided generously for its poor. In 1824, John Kenrick, a generous citizen, created a fund "to aid the needy industrious poor of the town, especially such widows and orphans as had not fallen under the immediate care of the Overseers of the Poor."

This fund has been faithfully administered from that time to this, and has proved a source of comfort to many. Would time permit, we could speak of the Cottage Hospital, the Pomeroy Home, the Pine Farm School for boys, and other similar charitable institutions that have been established here.

Before Newton became a city it had taken action looking to the introduction of pure water, and the town was authorized to take water from Charles River. This act was accepted in 1872. Subsequent acts enlarged the powers of the city, and it was decided to put in a system of water-works. These were completed in 1876, at large expense; and Newton has enjoyed from that time the luxury of pure water in abundance.

Among the many advantages enjoyed by Newton are the railroads within its limits. As early as May, 1834, the Boston & Worcester Railroad was opened to Newton, nearly a year before it was completed to Worcester.

This was the first passenger railroad in this part of the

country. The trains were few, and the accommodations every way limited.

A speed of ten to twelve miles an hour then, instead of forty-five to fifty now. This road was laid out through Angier's Corner,— now Newton,— Hull's Crossing,— now Newtonville,— and Squash End,— now West Newton.

These villages were very small, and the only ones on that side of the town except Lower Falls to which a branch railroad was built some years later. Auburndale came into existence after the main line was built. In the year 1852 the Charles River Branch Railroad was opened from Brookline to Newton Upper Falls, having stations at Chestnut Hill, Newton Centre, Oak Hill,— now Newton Highlands. This road under another name was extended to Woonsocket, R.I.

The construction and running of these roads gave an impetus to building, and several of the stations have become centres of large and flourishing villages. Though the two railroads already in existence well accommodated all passing to and from Boston, there was no easy communication from one side of the city of Newton to the other, and the idea was conceived of building a railroad connecting the two railroads together, forming the Newton Circuit from Newton Highlands to Riverside. This work was accomplished largely through the efforts of the writer, and the road was opened May 15, 1886, thus connecting by rail nearly all the villages of Newton, and forming a belt line such as is found in few other towns or cities on the continent.

Along this connecting link Eliot, Waban, and Woodland stations are located. Newton cannot fail to enjoy in the future even greater prosperity than in the past, and a large increase in her population and wealth.

The good people of the town were not unmindful of the advantages of public parks, and among the latest acts of the town before it became a city was to appoint a committee to take into consideration the subject of parks and play-grounds for the town. This action led to the establishing of Farlow Park, to be followed, we trust, by others.

The town having outgrown its old form of government and having a population sufficient to entitle it to become a city, a town meeting was held April 7, 1873, and by a large vote it was decided, after a lengthy debate, to petition the General Court, then in session, for a city charter, which was granted. In October following, the voters accepted "An Act to establish the City of Newton." Under this new form of government we have enjoyed increased prosperity. Let us in imagination go back to 1639, when all this territory was a primeval forest ; when over these hills and along these valleys roamed the wolf and the deer; when the river and lakes swarmed with fish, and on their unvexed surface the wild fowl rested securely; when the smoke still ascended from the wigwam of the Indian on Nonantum Hill, and the sons of the forest as well as the pale-faced settler found their way from point to point along blazed paths, which were later to become bridle-ways and still later town-ways and highways, and finally, as we see them to-day, magnificent and well-kept avenues, lined on either side with beautiful trees, some of which have sheltered the red hunter of the forest, while along these streets are reared the homes of a prosperous and happy people.

The years went slowly by, and life with our ancestors on these broad acres was one of severe toil and hardship. The land must be subdued amid many dangers and brought under cultivation to supply the wants of the growing families of the first settlers and those that were added to their number from time to time.

It is not easy for those reared amid the comforts and luxuries of life to realize what our ancestors endured in their efforts to lay broad and deep the foundations for future towns and cities.

Amid hopes and fears life went on, and in 1688 the growth and progress had been such as to justify the incorporation of a town whose fame was to go sounding down through the centuries.

Our fathers builded better than they knew. Two hundred

years have passed since the legal incorporation of Newton, then a small town with a very sparse population, now a city of more than twenty-one thousand inhabitants. Then with a single church, and that a very poor and inexpensive one: now twenty-six or more churches, some of them costing between one and two hundred thousand dollars. Then here and there a lane or town-way: now more than one hundred and thirty miles of well-kept streets. Then no school-house on this territory: now those of magnificent proportions, with schools of all grades, with a large and excellent corps of teachers, besides private academies and higher institutions of learning. Then only here and there a farm with its low farm-house: now beautiful villages, costly business blocks, palatial residences, well-kept villas and cosey cottages, all showing enterprise, culture, and taste. How great the change from the scattered town in the wilderness, two hundred years ago, to the rich and flourishing city of to-day!

Standing on the heights of these closing years of this nineteenth century, and looking back over the long roll of years since Newton began its existence in the "forest primeval," we cannot fail to realize the remarkable progress of the two centuries that have passed. Our hearts swell with emotion as we call to mind the grand characters and heroic deeds of the noble band of men and women who here laid broad and deep the foundations upon which we are building, and who helped to secure for us the rich blessings of civil and religious liberty.

As we contemplate the past and appreciate the present, may it stimulate us all to higher aspirations and greater usefulness, that we may prove worthy sons of such noble sires!

# ADDRESS OF LEVERETT SALTONSTALL, ESQ., COLLECTOR OF U. S. CUSTOMS, PORT OF BOSTON.

I am not a native of Newton, and have had small opportunity to prepare a fitting address for this occasion, but should be hardly true to the town where I have passed the most important and larger half of my life, were I to refuse the earnest request of our mayor to address you, if only in a few brief words.

No one can have lived in this beautiful place for over thirty years without being impressed by its numerous attractions, favored as it is in every way by nature, and rendered more desirable as a place of residence by all that its worthy citizens can devise for the promotion of health, comfort, education, and intelligence.

There is, I believe, no town or city in the neighborhood of Boston which can compare with Newton. Her commanding hills, each offering an extensive panorama peculiar to itself, all exquisite, but none alike; her lovely meadows and valleys; her beautiful river, gracefully and gently winding around her borders, furnishing her people with purest water; her sweet, invigorating air, bringing health, especially to those whose good fortune it is to live on her higher plains and hillsides; her roads of such unrivalled excellence; her admirable schools and numerous churches; her pretty cottages and handsome villas, resting in their well-kept lawns and gardens; her intelligent and thrifty population,—all constitute Newton the gem in the coronet of beautiful towns and cities which environ the metropolis.

Let us ever be proud of her, and be grateful, too, that our

lines are cast in such pleasant places. May we ever be ready to speak for her, to work for her, and by our individual and united effort to defend her against every open or covert foe, that her homes may be free from vice and intemperance, her schools true to their well-earned reputation, her officers above suspicion, and her church bells never be silent!

So shall we hand down to posterity the rich legacy received from the fathers, for which they labored and toiled as never before nor since have men labored and toiled.

The early history of Newton has always seemed to me to be in one way especially interesting, and quite above the story of the dull, dreary routine of toil and drudgery which fell to the lot of most of the other towns; for was it not here that John Eliot, that true apostle, labored to teach the poor Indian the great truths of Christianity?

I know no more touching tale in our early history than the account handed down to us of these poor sons of the forest seated around Eliot,— who had after years of careful study mastered their language,— eagerly drinking in his words, and tearfully questioning him.

"Did God understand Indian prayers?"

"Were the English ever so ignorant as the poor Indians?"

The confession of Waban, too, the first Christian convert, before he died, might well bring tears to the eyes of any one reading it, in view of the sad fate of these native tribes.

What a shame to our race that the work of this noble apostle should have been allowed to perish with him, and that the original owners of the soil should have been abandoned to the contamination of vice and disease, to be followed by annihilation!

I hold in my hand a sermon which I accidentally found among some old papers, printed in 1723, entitled "*Question*, whether God is not angry with this country for doing so little toward the conversion of the Indians." "Discourse by the Reverend and Learned Mr. Solomon Stoddard of North Hampton," in which the good man exclaims: "The profes-

sion of those that adventured into this country was that it was their principal design to bring the Indians to the knowledge of the true God and Saviour of mankind, and to the Christian faith, and it would have been the honor of the country if they had answered that profession." "And, if a spirit of love toward Jesus Christ had flourished in us, it would be the joy of our hearts to see congregations of Indians waiting on God in His house, joining in prayer, hearing the Gospel, and celebrating the memory of the death of Christ." "And it is matter of shame," the good man goes on to say, "that, when others are carrying the Gospel many thousands of miles from their own country, we suffer them that dwell among us and that are borderers to us to lie in darkness, and afford them very little help for their deliverance."

And as the reverend gentleman preached one hundred and sixty-five years ago, so we say to-day. All the more then beams out the bright and shining light of brave John Eliot, gifted with "tongues," the inspired teacher, like Paul at Athens, declaring the "unknown God" to Waban and his tribe.

Though my fathers were not among the early settlers of Newton, yet must they have trodden her soil and have been familiar with her streams, her hills and meadows. For, when Governor Winthrop and Sir Richard Saltonstall, after landing at Salem in 1630, left with their friends and followers to seek settlements, Winthrop stopped at Shawmut; but Saltonstall, with that excellent man, the Reverend George Phillips, journeyed on through the wilderness, untrodden by the feet of white men, till he came to a "spot well watered" on the Charles, where he rested and commenced a plantation, calling it Watertown. This was sixteen years before Eliot preached to the Indians at Nonantum, and fifty-eight before the incorporation of Newton.

Then, again, I see that in 1640 this town "granted to Samuel Shepard a farm of 400 acres of upland, adjoining unto the meadows which were sometime in the occupation

of brother Greene for Richard Saltonstall." So that there can be traced a strong probable link of friendship between the sons of Sir Richard and the first settlers of Cambridge Village, as it then was,— ancestors of some of my esteemed friends and townsmen.

All important events in the history of our country, from its earliest infancy, are so carefully preserved and handed down from generation to generation that they can be recalled at stated intervals; and so we can, fortunately, on the recurrence of anniversaries and centennials of these events, revive our interest in them, bring them vividly before each generation, and thereby heighten our veneration for the brave, the true-hearted, pious founders of our beloved Commonwealth. But, above all, should gratitude to Him who supported our fathers through all their trials and sufferings fill our hearts and animate us with zealous ardor to live as worthy sons of such a parentage.

I know of no celebrations half so interesting as these centennials. The pictures of the past are held before us and our children, to be by them handed down in undying colors to posterity.

Here, then, is the sheet-anchor of the great Republic; and so long as our children and our children's children shall cherish this precious history of the fathers, and shall earnestly recur to it for inspiration, so long will our institutions be secure, so long will Church and State rest each on its stable foundation. The waves of fanaticism, of infidelity, of blind and senseless sectarianism, aye, even of anarchism, will beat against them in vain. "The rock shall fly from its firm base" sooner than they shall perish.

The landings of the Pilgrims and of the Puritans of the Massachusetts Colony, the settlements of the towns, of the churches, of the colleges, the events leading up to the contest for independence, the Revolution, with all its heart-stirring incidents, have been celebrated in anniversaries and centennials; and may God grant the time may never come when they shall cease to be observed!

# NEWTON'S TWO HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY.

## POEM.

BY S. F. SMITH, D.D.

With filial love and reverent thoughts, we scan
The glimmering dawn in which the town began:
How, one by one, with spirits brave and true,
The founders left the old and sought the new,
Pitched their frail tents upon the virgin sod,—
Indians their neighbors, and their helper, God;
Taught the wild savage from rude strife to cease,
And learn the nobler arts of love and peace.

Good men and wise,— men of both brawn and brain,—
From tangled woods they wrought this fair domain;
Planted an acorn from a foreign oak,
Where wild winds whistled and the tempests broke;
Watched it and watered, as it upward grew,—
Child of the sun and storm, the frost and dew.
'Twas wreathed around with clouds, blue, white, and red,
And a whole heaven of starlight overhead.
They loved and guarded it by day and night,
Beneath its shade sat with profound delight,
And taught their sons the reverent love to share
Of those who nursed the tender sapling there.

Brave oak! see how its honored head it rears,
Stands peerless in its majesty of years,
Laughs at the echo of the centuries' tread,
And bids the living emulate the dead.

Whence came the founders of this rising State,—
The fair, the fond, the beautiful, the great?
Some, with strong muscle, skilled to build or plan,
Came from the workshop of the artisan;
Some from the polished town, the school, the mart,
Some from the farm; while some, with loving heart,

Linked to some noble soul, in youthful bloom,
Dared to the forest to transplant the home;
By the sweet grace of woman to refine,
To shed around her path a light Divine,
The faint adventurer's courage to sustain,
To raise the fallen to life and hope again,
And help the sire to bear the weary load,
Strengthened and stayed by woman's faith in God.

Such were the fathers of the little flock,
And such the mothers, brave to bear the shock
Of hopes deferred, till — the fair model made —
The deep foundations of the town were laid.

I see, as backward now I turn my eye,
The quaint but grand procession filing by:
Jackson and Fuller, Prentice, Hyde, and Park,
Bacon and Hammond, Kenrick, Ward, and Clarke,
Wiswell and Eliot, Trowbridge, Spring, and Stone,
Parker and Williams, Hobart, Bartlett,— known
As men of substance, brave, and wise, and good —
Their light still shines,— an honored brotherhood.
All, all have passed: their noble deeds remain,
As the sweet summer sun and dew and rain
Pass from our sight and sense, but re-appear
In golden harvests,— crown of all the year.

What found they here? those souls so brave and true,—
Risking the well-known old for the unknown new.
A forest home, lands rough and unsubdued,
Absence of early friends, a solitude;
No civil state, no patent of the free,
But taxed by Cambridge for the right to be;
The savage war-whoop struck their souls with dread,
The Indian arrows round their dwellings sped,
And many a timid heart, with bodings drear,
Kept Lent of hope and Carnival of fear.

What have they brought us? See! these fair domains,—
The fruit of patient toil and wearying pains;
The fame of wise men, destined still to grow;
The fame of progress, real, if often slow;
The hum of study in our learned halls;
The grace and beauty of our pictured walls;

Our noble churches of enduring stone;
Our public gardens with their sweet flowers strewn;
The fame of men who firm in battle stood,
And bought the rights of freemen with their blood,
And in the nation's struggle won the field,
Too wise to compromise, too brave to yield,
And walked unshrinking through the deadly fires,—
The patriot sons, alike, and patriot sires.

These are our jewels, these our joy and boast,
Worthy the toils they brought, the wealth they cost,—
A rich return for efforts, zeal, and fears,
Blest harvests of these great two hundred years.

# ADDRESS OF JOHN S. FARLOW, ESQ.

*Mr. Mayor and Ladies and Gentlemen,*— When I came here this afternoon, I found — much to my surprise — on the printed order of exercises that my name was there for an address.

Now, sir, a formal address is to me something appalling. I never made one in my life; and I cannot possibly entertain the idea of making one at this time, to such an assemblage as this, and I shall not attempt it. I should, however, be wanting in duty to this my adopted city, and to the ladies and gentlemen here assembled, if, on an occasion like this, I failed to respond to the invitation so kindly tendered me by his Honor, the Mayor, and say something, however feeble, that might possibly add interest to the event we are now celebrating.

If, sir, I had been present at the laying of the corner-stone of Newton, as our friend Otis Pettee was, or even, if like our friend J. F. C. Hyde, I had had a hundred and odd years' experience as the presiding genius of Newton's town meetings, I might, like them, be able to discourse eloquently of those ancient days, and tell of the valiant deeds of the then inhabitants of the town in repelling the assaults of ruthless savages, and to speak in glowing terms of the salubrious climate, undulating hills, and pleasant valleys of the town; of its lovely Charles River, pursuing its tortuous course to the sea; the delightful scenery bordering the head-waters of the classic Cheesecake Brook; and the excellence of its churches and public schools. I might also be able to tell of the raisings, the huskings, and quiltings, and of the nut-cracking, apple-eating, and cider-drinking with which

those patriarchs were wont to regale themselves at their winter firesides. Some of these we still enjoy. We have the same salubrious climate, the same undulating hills and pleasant valleys, the same lovely, tortuous Charles River, and the same classic Cheesecake Brook. We have also churches in greater number and variety, with creeds and without. We have also the very best of public schools, ample in number for our increased population, divested, I hope, of all sectarian influences, whether Protestant or Catholic, Gentile or Jew. I sincerely trust they will ever remain so; for on the character and excellence of our public schools more than on anything else depends the perpetuity of our free republican institutions. These, as I said before, we now enjoy as they did in the days long past; but in all else how changed! Instead of their wells and well-sweeps, we now have an excellent system of city water-works, that distributes — at small cost to each — pure water to every house in town. For their tallow dips, we of to-day's Newton have substituted kerosene oil, electric lights, and illuminating gas. Gas of the other sort they probably had as well as we.

We have also well-appointed fire and police departments, which they neither had nor needed. For their happy fireside feasts we can only offer in comparison those we now enjoy at our Woodland Park Hotel, where our friend Lee (that prince of caterers) dispenses choice morsels of canvass-back duck, terrapin, soft-shell crabs, and other appetizing delicacies, not so wholesome perhaps as what they had, but more grateful to the vitiated taste of these modern times. The Newton of to-day has but few poor people, and still fewer of those who nowadays would be called rich; but we have instead a well-to-do, middling class of active, industrious, enterprising men, who are not only independent financially, but also in all matters of religious and political thought and action,—men who know and esteem each other for what they are, as *men*. Newton is a quiet, peaceable, well-governed town, and has been ever since I have resided in it.

From close personal observation for the past thirty years, I say, unhesitatingly, that there is no better governed town or city in this country or any other. If, Mr. Mayor, we can be assured of as good an administration of government as you and those who have preceded you have given us, we shall be fortunate indeed. Colonel Saltonstall has just told us that he came to Newton to reside more than thirty years ago. He and I, therefore, can claim a timely fellowship as citizens of Newton; for it is now thirty-one years since I pitched my tent on Nonantum hillside. Thirty-one years, sir, is a long period for one to dwell in one place; and few there are that do it.

For me, those thirty-one years have been thirty-one years of constant, pleasurable enjoyment. My children and my grandchildren have grown up around me to man's and woman's estate, under the benign influence of Newton's public schools and other institutions and associations; and I know that they, too, have and will ever hold in grateful remembrance all that Newton has done for them and me. I indulge the hope, sir, that I am to have further years of enjoyment, and am consoled with the assurance that, when my days are ended, my body shall be laid at rest under six feet of good Newton soil.

# ADDRESS OF HON. WILLIAM B. FOWLE, THIRD MAYOR OF NEWTON.

On occasions like this, it is well to recall the past, and once again, while renewing our own memories of great events, place upon record our appreciation of those events. The time allotted to me, within the limits of which I am to speak to you of the public spirit of Newton, in peace and in war, is but short, and only admits that I touch briefly upon salient points.

Whenever in the past great emergencies have called for action, or public good has demanded expenditure, or the unfortunate have needed assistance, Newton has responded with no doubtful tone. Her exertions, her sacrifices, her wealth, her lives, have ever been freely offered and given, when required for the general welfare.

The public spirit contained within a community is all embraced within three forms of its expressions: —

*First.* In its corporate capacity, the willingness of all to submit to assessment *pro rata* to wealth, for the advantage of all.

*Second.* The action of individuals in rendering service or in voluntarily contributing wealth towards the promotion of the general welfare. But few can enjoy this latter pleasure, — those only to whom has been intrusted the wealth essential to its indulgence.

*Third.* That abnegation of self, under which hardships are voluntarily encountered, and property, comfort, home, life, — in fact, all that we hold dear on earth, — are risked to protect or preserve the existence of the community.

In each and all of these several types of public spirit,

Newton has ever shown herself worthy. The pride in her cherished by her citizens is fully justified.

To-day we see around us manifold evidences of Newton's care for the comfort, improvement, enjoyment, and safety of its inhabitants. Its school-houses and liberal expenditures for education far exceed the requirements of law. We see it in the beauty and solidity of the public structures, in the water supply, the fire department, the Public Library, the almshouse, the military, police, and roads. All of these bear witness to the fact that its government in the past has regarded the general good, and liberally passed the measures essential to that good. Nor has it failed to exhibit its appreciation of public spirit, as fully shown by the memorial monument to its dead soldiers.

The liberality of its individual citizens is equally evident. Throughout a long life, J. Wiley Edmands in many ways proved his love for Newton, and, as the crowning proof, left to it the beautiful Public Library Building.

In the same spirit, a citizen yet among us gave the tasteful chapel at the cemetery.

The same spirit is exhibited in those charitable institutions which are entirely supported by voluntary contributions, the Girls' Home, the Boys' Home, and the Cottage Hospital, all of them performing loving service for the relief of the needy and suffering.

Still the same spirit caused those legacies,— the Kenrick Fund and the Reed Fund.

None but those whose duty it has at times been to distribute the income from the Kenrick Fund can appreciate the amount of good effected by it. A small sum, its annual income but some two hundred dollars, yet that small sum, bestowed in accordance with the donor's wish, "to deserving persons, pressed by circumstances, but not recipients of public alms," has lightened many a heavy burden. It was a thoughtful and delicate bequest.

The Reed Fund is similar in its objects. This tender charity, as yet but of short existence, has already yielded

health and enjoyment to a class whose opportunities for enjoyment are few indeed.

To great necessities occasioned by calamities occurring beyond her own limits, the citizens of Newton have ever promptly and liberally contributed. The extent of such contributions is rarely known, because such offerings are usually made through Boston, in which city mostly lie the business interests of our citizens. From want of time, many other deserving cases of service rendered to our community must remain unnoted here.

But the evidences of public spirit thus far claimed and noted, beautiful as they are, do not reach to the highest type of this quality. They involve only the parting, to a greater or less extent, with this world's goods. Beyond and above them should be placed a yet nobler test of public spirit, that which involves the risk of all that man holds dear on earth,— property, comfort, home, life.

Such public spirit as this has permeated the entire past of this grand old town. Hardships to be borne, fortune to be parted with, life to be yielded up,— such calls Newton has ever promptly met and nobly answered.

Two hundred years ago Newton contained but some sixty families, an intelligent, manly, honest nucleus for the great nation that has since grown from them and such as they. The only settlement was in or near to what we now call Newton Centre. The remainder of the town's area was still primeval forest, the hunting-grounds of the Indians.

The great danger of those times arose from the hostility of the Indians to the settlers. From this danger Newton, although she feared them and took precautions against them, proved to be happily exempt. This exemption was principally due to the labors of the apostle Eliot, who gained great influence over Waban, the chief of the tribe then resident here, and through him induced a friendliness towards the white men, which enabled the two races to live in peace together. This fact undoubtedly aided in preserving the white men of Newton from the attacks of hostile tribes of

Indians, which swarmed about them, at no great distance and in all directions.

Had our settlers lacked public spirit, they might have quietly remained in comparative security, and have left their neighbors, less happily located, unaided by them to contend against the attacks and massacres to which they were often subjected. Not such the temper of Newton's men! History tells us that these true hearts were constantly leaving their homes, intrusting their dearest to the care of the great Father, and aiding in the protection of other settlements needing such aid. Massachusetts, Maine, New Hampshire, and Rhode Island, all, at various times, bore witness to the public spirit of these, Newton's earliest inhabitants.

Such were our ancestors of that generation. They passed to their reward. A new generation, reared in the enjoyment of the peace bequeathed by their fathers, themselves inexperienced in war, arrived at manhood, when to them came also the crowning test of true citizenship. They also responded as nobly as had their ancestors.

History has preserved so much of Newton's share in the war of the Revolution that I need but briefly dwell upon it. In 1775 culminated the contest with Great Britain, which, fot ten years had been gradually increasing in bitterness. Newton, in common with the entire country, had been much aggrieved at the unjust and arbitrary measures enforced by Great Britain, and had bravely shown its dissatisfaction by resolutions passed as events called them forth. During this period, peaceful measures only were employed, in the hope that the mother country might be induced peacefully to right the wrong. Nevertheless, Newton had prepared for war,— had armed all its men and organized military companies.

That little army from Newton, which on April 19, 1775, left its home to march to Lexington, will ever merit and receive the fullest meed of praise that can be awarded to deserving citizens. They had parted with all whom they held most dear, had imperilled the future of those dear ones,

had risked the loss of all that their past labors had enabled them to earn, had taken the first steps towards years of certain hardship and suffering, which could only be shortened or relieved by death or success. They realized, they knew, all this. They knew the overwhelming resources of the power they thus dared. Their hearts must have been lacerated and their utmost fears excited by the peril thus thrown upon their loved ones. As thoughtful men, during that trying march, they must have pondered upon these things; yet, true to the core, they faltered not. Colonel Michael Jackson and his two hundred and eighteen men deserved all honors which can be earned by man, and they have them. This little force contained a full half of the men of Newton. They fought at Lexington and at Concord; and, owing to the prudent preparation in their organization, they fought with signal ability. We cannot now realize the anxieties and hardships suffered and borne by our noble old town throughout the seven years of war which followed, but the public spirit of Newton met all this with the same vitality as of old.

Peace came at last. The generation which bore the burden of the war of the Revolution, counting its life's work done, bequeathed peace to its successors, and went to its reward.

Another long term of peace, another generation grown to manhood amid peaceful pursuits, another crisis calling for yet another exhibition of patriotism, another response from old Newton, another uprising equalling all that had gone before. To the army and navy, in the War of the Rebellion, Newton supplied over 1,100 men, fully one-half of the number of its legal voters. That same public spirit was yet alive and active.

Who of us can fail to remember the doubts which hung over us when first it became certain that we must fight? Our distance from the presumed seat of the coming war, our lack of previous belief that war must come, our hitherto peaceful lives, undisturbed by a thought of war,—all these might have resulted, to say the least, in delay to our response

to the call for troops. No such delay occurred. Again Newton proved herself worthy the renown bequeathed by her Revolutionary sires, again the men of Newton freely risked their all on earth for the nation's benefit, and again deserved and won their portion of the nation's gratitude.

Have we yet forgotten how great is our debt to these men? I think not; yet I pray our citizens to remember that the same manhood which caused these men to answer, "Ready!" at the time of trouble, may, and I believe does, cause them to maintain silence as to themselves and their own necessities.

The pride we to-day take in Newton is fully justified. Ever desiring peace, she has, when necessity forced, sought that peace through war. Often tried, never wanting, she has ever been nobly true to herself; and her citizens have shown themselves deeply imbued with that noblest trait in man,— love for his fellow-man.

The enforced absence of Hon. John C. Park caused universal regret. Infirmities of age and the inclement season prevented his active participation in the celebration. He had not prepared a written address, but his well-known gifts of oratory would have graced the occasion, had he been able to be present.

# ADDRESS OF OTIS PETTEE, ESQ.

*Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,*— After what has already been so ably and eloquently said of our beautiful city, and its early history and progress to the present time, there is but little, if anything, left for me to say. Therefore, I will only put in a few nows and thens, by way of variety, in comparing the pioneer life and customs of a hundred years ago with the life of the present day.

It is fair to presume that the aspirations of the early settlers were to provide homes for their families, a shelter for their live stock and farm productions, and a few implements of husbandry to assist in earning a living; but the luxuries of life were left by them for generations to follow.

I think I have heard it remarked by the late and venerable Seth Davis, Esq., that in the days of his early childhood there were but three family carriages owned in Newton, one by General Hull, one by Dr. Freeman, and one by General Simon Elliot. Riding upon horseback or in the ordinary farm wagons very likely was the principal mode of conveyance. My impression is, it would take considerable time to go through the assessors' books to ascertain the number of family carriages owned in Newton to-day.

The early settlers lived in small and unpretentious dwellings. We particularly call to mind the old Cheney house that stood in the south-west part of the town, near the Upper Falls. This house was built in 1702 by Mr. Joseph Cheney, grandfather of the late General Ebenezer Cheney. The frame of the house was of heavy oak timber, the lower story was wainscoted with thick oaken planks, to resist the force of a stray arrow or bullet. One side of the living room was

entirely occupied by a mammoth open fireplace and oven. We remember, too, the old Queen's arms and other military accoutrements hanging upon the walls, together with sundry utensils of husbandry, etc. The old house, having fulfilled its mission, was pulled down in the spring of 1857.

Now we live in large and costly mansions of Queen Anne styles or Mansard type of architecture, which have profuse outside embellishments both of carving and paint.

Then huge back-logs, with andirons and foresticks, surmounted by sticks of wood of lesser proportions, made a fire in winter weather worthy of its name. A fire built in this way would usually last from three to four weeks, by occasionally being replenished with a few small sticks. To build such a fire required the assistance of all the neighbors near by. I have heard my father say that, when he was a lad, he went with his father to assist in getting in a backlog that was more than two feet in diameter and six feet long, and green from the forest. After getting it in position, the smaller sticks were placed upon it until the pile was nearly six feet high. The brands and embers from the old fire were placed in front of the pile, and the new fire was kindled.

Now a boiler in the basement furnishes steam for a system of radiators in the various compartments of our houses, which gives a comfortable and even temperature throughout the building.

Then fire would be obtained with a tinder-box, flint, and steel, or with matches the boys would split out in their leisure moments and dip in melted brimstone.

Now a slight scratch of a lucifer match upon any hard substance will immediately produce a flame.

Then an evening's light the fire on the hearth would not provide would be supplied by burning pine knots, or tallow dips, or by vidders hung upon a crane.

Now a hand — it may be miles away — pulls a lever, and the land and our dwellings are, or may be, flooded with a powerful electric light.

Then water for domestic use was procured from wells or springs, near by or more remote, by lowering a bucket hung upon a horseshoe attached to the end of a pole, or by the improved method of a well-sweep, which consisted of a long pole balanced upon a crotchet at the top of a post,—the butt end of the pole was weighted with a heavy block of wood or stone fastened upon it,—and from the opposite end there was suspended a smaller pole with a bucket for lowering into the well. This appliance for drawing water has been immortalized by Woodworth in his charming lyric of "The Old Oaken Bucket."

Now by a turn of a faucet in the lavatory pure water flows in abundance.

Then a signal to a neighbor, if there should chance to be one living within sight, or to the marketmen or bakers that occasionally made the circuit of the settlements, would be given by hanging a strip of white or colored homespun from an upper window or other conspicuous place.

Now a turn of a crank, an ear-trumpet, and speaking-tube, with a "hulloa," is all that is required to open a conversation with any parties, however distant.

Then the wives and daughters carded their wool and spun the yarns with their great spinning-wheels for hand knitting and weaving articles of clothing for their families.

Now the same work is done by power machinery in our large manufactories, and we go to the emporiums and purchase every variety of ready-made goods for domestic uses.

With all the primitive methods of earning a livelihood, our ancestors were not unmindful of the necessity of bringing up their sons and daughters to become men and women of good sound integrity and moral character, and to give them an education that would enable them to occupy with honor any station in life they might be called upon to fill.

They were a progressive people, and, although a few slaves were once owned in Newton, the system was looked upon as a curse to any community, and soon stamped out.

Intemperance in the use of strong drinks was another

blight which they did not lose sight of, as well as of sundry other moral reforms unnecessary to enumerate at this time.

Therefore, the measure of indebtedness we owe to generations gone before for our present beautiful homes and the luxuries about them is difficult to compute; and we may well be proud of the enviable rank we hold in the galaxy of cities around us.

As a matter of history, I will say that, in crossing the bridge over Charles River between Newton and Watertown a few days since, my attention was arrested by a stone tablet placed upon the bridge at the right-hand side and near the centre of the river, with the following inscription engraved upon it: —

"This bridge built in 1719, and was then known as the Great Bridge, and the first one built in the State."

I find in the town records of Cambridge that an appropriation of two hundred pounds lawful money, towards building a bridge over Charles River, was made, and that the bridge was built about 1660, and was called and long known as the Great Bridge.

And in Holmes's History of Cambridge there is recorded an order of the selectmen that timber bought for the fortifications be used for repairing the Great Bridge, and that the bridge was rebuilt in 1690 at the expense of Cambridge and Newton, with some aid from the public treasury.

Dr. Paige's History of Cambridge gives a detailed account of the conception and building of a bridge across Charles River, and the citizens of Cambridge agreed to contribute two hundred pounds towards its construction, and that the bridge was completed before March, 1663. This bridge was larger than any previous bridge built in the colony, and was called the Great Bridge.

In 1734, it was provided that a draw in said bridge, not less than thirty-two feet wide, should be constructed, at an equal distance from each abutment, and that the opening in the middle of said draw should be the dividing line between Cambridge and Brighton at that point.

This bridge as described by Messrs. Holmes and Paige was built more than fifty years before the Watertown bridge, and is conceded by all authorities to be the bridge across the river near Harvard Square in Cambridge; and I think it is the second bridge below the arsenal bridge between the lower part of Watertown and Brighton Corner.

# ADDRESS OF JULIUS L. CLARKE, ESQ., FIRST CLERK OF THE CITY OF NEWTON.

*Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,*— There are some people in the world who regard lineal descent or pedigree as of little or no account, unless dating far back into the centuries or shrouded in some mysterious antiquity. With all deference to freedom of opinion, and with loyal veneration for ancestral honor and distinction, yet claiming no special prestige as a lineal representative of Newton's earlier settlers, it may suffice for me to say that about one generation ago important interests prompted my selection of a home in West Newton, familiarly known in old-time prosaic vocabulary as "Squash End." And so, friends, although my Newton pedigree reaches back only a single generation, I am proud to add even my humble tribute to this memorial service, and to the city of my home, in connection with some of whose departments of municipal administration you have from the first honored me with responsible trust.

Without trespass upon history already so well and pertinently cited, permit me a word in emphasis of the welcome fact that Newton to-day takes her place in the historic and distinguished procession of towns and cities which have preceded her in the observance of their two hundredth anniversaries. The occasion therefore furnishes a fitting opportunity for taking account of *stock*,— in other words, the social, moral, intellectual, and material wealth which has become the crowning glory of Puritan and Pilgrim Newton. I say Puritan and Pilgrim with no thought of sectarian or partisan implication; for, irrespective of any and all differences, supposed or otherwise, whether in creed, polity, or practice, both

were brought by lineal descent and by succession into Newton's common fellowship and interest. Both were conscientious in their faith and example; yet neither were perfect. Both had their faults, as we have ours; and so it is that none of us are ever too old to learn, nor ever so wise that we may not become wiser, nor ever so good that we may not become better. But, aside from all this, that Puritan and Pilgrim ancestry richly merit our most grateful and reverent regard. Their spirit and purpose were noble, patriotic, and progressive. Their achievements were grand and far-reaching. In all this toilsome yet glorious struggle for the establishment of principle and right, and for the richest fruitage of practical thrift, living faith, and conscientious integrity, their aims were loyally cherished and faithfully exemplified through their own and descendant generations, and often from the executive chair of the Commonwealth, as happily evidenced by its present occupant, from a Pilgrim ancestry, whom we welcome to-day as our guest.

But, returning to our account of stock, we find that ever since that sparsely settled and impoverished hamlet along the south shore of Charles River was divorced from her Cambridge associate,— whether her better or poorer half, the oracle saith not,— and set up for herself as an independent "Newtowne" municipality, her record has been one of almost continued growth and prosperity, though at first slow, yet ever leading onward to higher and higher education and culture, and to greater enlargement, influence, and wealth. Her twenty original settlers are to-day represented by more than as many thousands; while in place of their aggregate property valuation of £8,536, or about $42,000, Newton's real valuation has come to be almost a thousand-fold greater. Why, the poorest man among those twenty settlers was worth as much as £85, about $425; while the richest, Edward Jackson, Deacon John Jackson, and Thomas Hammond, the fortunate possessors respectively of $12,000, $6,000, and $5,000, were, so to speak, the "bloated millionaires" of their time, though bearing sorry comparison

with millionaires of our day. In this financial relation it may be interesting to know that for the first nine years Newton's annual town tax for current expenses averaged about $100; for the next twenty-five years, about $450; and for the next forty-five years, about $830. While the monetary necessities of our now thriving city are constantly increasing in volume and forcing compliance with their demand, a comparison of these beggarly figures with present assessments, more than half a million a year, may at least create a suspicion that the world moves, and especially its "Garden City."

Of all its public expenditures, whether as town or city, none have yielded more welcome return than those devoted to educational interests, to which I desire especially to refer, though in the few moments assigned me I can do little more than picture in briefest outline the marvellous contrast between *now* and *then*. Of the rise and progress of our educational service, let me say, in passing, that here, as elsewhere, the church and the school have been potent factors in moulding and developing the character of our population, though it is a notable fact that for sixty years after her settlement Newton had no public or private school, and that the meeting-house preceded the school-house by nearly half a century, the children meantime having the privilege of attending school in Cambridge, four or five miles away, on the north side of the Charles, and for which Newton, then an integral part of the former, was taxed as early as 1642. It is a singular fact in this connection that, while the church so long preceded the school in Newton, the former was far behind the latter in one very essential improvement, one hundred and thirty-two years having elapsed during which no such thing as a stove was known in a Newton church, while only ninety-seven years passed before her schools were provided with that necessary addition, the town voting in 1796 to purchase five stoves for that purpose.

The erection of the first school-house, 16×14 feet, in 1699, with Deacon John Staples as master four days in the week

at two shillings a day, followed two years later with two more, 16×16 feet, one near the First Church at Newton Centre and the other at Oak Hill, the same teacher giving two-thirds of his time to the former and one-third to the latter, proved the beginning of a new era in our school history. Though not till sixty-three years later, in 1766, was a single schoolmistress employed; and, when that most desirable innovation did come, the schools were for a considerable period classified as "men's schools" and "women's schools," the distinction being extended even to appropriations for their maintenance. Yet the authorities of that day evidently believed in the value of "book learning"; for parents were required to pay 3*d.* a week for a child "learning to read, and 4*d.* a week for learning to read, write, and cipher."

With kindest respect for our honored predecessors, it may be said that from this little beginning, with its unique regulations and its little sixteen-foot *shanty*, has come forth the broad, grand educational system now so deservedly the pride of our city, and so many of whose school graduates have been represented in the ministry, in college and seminary professorships, and in every department of public, professional, and honorable business life. That little *sixteen-footer*, costing only $100, has given place to twenty or more spacious school buildings, in which more than 4,000 pupils are now enrolled, in nearly ninety schools, under the instruction of more than one hundred teachers; while the annual school expenditure of $50 or $75 in those first years has now reached upwards of $100,000 a year, not including cost of buildings, etc., the present valuation of which aggregates nearly $600,000,— and all this a living example of Newton's noble generosity and progressive spirit.

In conclusion, we recall in treasured reminiscence and in pleasant association very many of high and deserved reputation, both as citizens and educators. In the very beginning of this notable record, we find two of Newton's town clerks prominently identified with her educational development, Deacon John Staples officiating as her first public school-

teacher, and, later on, Marshall S. Rice as the founder of a private school for boys, in which more than a thousand pupils received their education in greater or less degree. Nor should we forget in this connection the once popular Female Academy and Boarding School, established in the Nonantum House at "Newton Corner," by Mrs. Susannah Rowson, the daughter of a British officer, and a lady whose literary and educational repute attracted a generous patronage, both home and foreign. Among those of more recent note may be named the late venerable Seth Davis, with whose educational work, commencing in the early days, we are all so familiar, Rev. Cyrus Pierce, Judge Abraham Fuller, Dr. Henry Bigelow, Hon. D. H. Mason, and many others, of whose faithful and efficient services time forbids enumeration. But, closely associated with the extension and development of their work, we remember the first Secretary of the Massachusetts Board of Education, Horace Mann, under whose supervision the first State Normal School was established in Lexington, afterwards removed to West Newton, and subsequently to Framingham, its loss to us being fortunately compensated by a popular successor, the West Newton English and Classical School. Important also in the same connection may be named the Newton Theological Seminary, opened in 1825, the Lasell Female Seminary, in 1851, both well and widely known, as have also been various other public and private schools before and since.

In all this history, as has been so well and truthfully said by one of our own distinguished historians, I am happy to say our "Poet Laureate" on this occasion, "Newton has been a benediction to the world through such instrumentalities and influences." These, with other tributary agencies, including church and ministry, and last, but not least, various public libraries, two of which were founded about the year 1798, a year before the establishment of the first public school, and finally our Free Public Library, so generously endowed by the late J. Wiley Edmands and others, and now

becoming a most useful auxiliary to our public school system, its circulation aggregating more than 100,000 volumes a year, and exceeding the ratio to population of nearly, if not every other city in the Commonwealth,—all these, in connection with an efficient school administration, past and present, have been most helpful co-operators in raising our standard of education, culture, and refinement.

But look back a moment. Two hundred years! Where, where have they gone? Quickly indeed have they disappeared in life's unremitting stream. But not lost. They still live in Newton's history, aye, in the world's history! The noble men, and the noble women, too, who lived to adorn and beautify the pages of that history with good deeds, loving ministries, and ennobling influences, have left behind a radiant and inspiring example to guide us onward to yet higher attainments and richer rewards. For this grand record of heroism, patience, faith, and sacrifice, we cannot be too grateful; and may those who shall gather for the observance of coming centennials have reason to rejoice in our memories, as do we in those of our predecessors. Such result will happily exemplify the suggestive truth that in all his ceaseless course, armed with glass and scythe,

> "Time is indeed a precious boon,
> But with the boon a task is given:
> The heart must learn its duty well
> To man on earth and God in heaven."

The audience united in singing "America," after which Rev. George W. Shinn, D.D., pronounced the benediction, as follows:—

The Blessing of God Almighty the Father, the Son, and the Holy Ghost be upon the City of Newton and upon all who dwell therein.

The Lord be favorable to this place in the time to come, as He has been in the time that is past.

May its citizens be law-abiding and upright, may its homes be pure and happy, may its institutions of learning and benevolence flourish, and may the principles of the Christian Faith be so truly received and so truly followed here by all the people of this place that the City of Newton may receive especial favor from the Lord, whose blessing maketh rich and addeth no sorrow.

# BANQUET.

About one hundred gentlemen, at six o'clock, gathered at the Woodland Park Hotel. His Honor the Mayor, J. Wesley Kimball, presided. In the absence of His Excellency the Governor, the Commonwealth was represented by His Honor the Lieutenant Governor, John Q. A. Brackett. Other guests of the city were: Hon. Henry N. Fisher, Mayor of Waltham; Hon. Mark F. Burns, Mayor of Somerville; Hon. George W. Hart, Mayor of Lynn; Hon. John J. Whipple, ex-Mayor of Brockton. Of the Newton City Government there were present: Aldermen James H. Nickerson, N. Henry Chadwick, Frederick Johnson, and John Ward; Councilmen Heman M. Burr, president and Mayor-elect; Albert W. Rice, Henry H. Hunt, Frank J. Hale, Ephraim S. Hamblen, Ebenezer H. Greenwood, and Henry H. Read; Rev. G. W. Shinn, D.D., of the School Committee; Winfield S. Slocum, City Solicitor and Representative to the General Court; Albert F. Noyes, City Engineer; Albert S. Glover, Water Registrar; Samuel M. Jackson and Howard B. Coffin, Assessors; Joseph D. Wellington, City Messenger. Of former members of the City Council there were present: ex-Mayors James F. C. Hyde and William B. Fowle; ex-Aldermen Otis Pettee, Vernon E. Carpenter, Henry E. Cobb, Noah W. Farley, George M. Fiske, Samuel L. Powers, and Austin R. Mitchell; ex-Councilmen J. Sturgis Potter, Joseph W. Stover, Prescott C. Bridgham, Luther E. Leland, William Peirce, Edward M. Billings, Henry F. Ross, and Lewis E. Coffin; ex-City Clerk Julius L. Clarke.

Other citizens were Rev. Daniel L. Furber, D.D., Rev. Theodore J. Holmes, John S. Farlow, Isaac T. Burr, John

B. Goodrich, William E. Plummer, George B. Wilbur, Edward H. Pierce, Austin T. Sylvester, Samuel Hano, George T. Coppins, Edward F. Barnes, M. J. Duane, O. C. Livermore, F. W. Turner, Chandler Seaver, Jr., C. E. Sweet, D. F. Parker, C. H. Johnson, W. F. Chapman, R. E. Ashenden, and William C. Brown.

After partaking of the very substantial dinner, served in accordance with the menu on page 71, interesting speeches were made by Lieutenant Governor Brackett, ex-Mayor Whipple, William E. Plummer, City Solicitor Slocum, ex-Alderman Powers, and others. The occasion was enlivened by vocal selections from the Temple Quartette, composed of the following-named gentlemen: William R. Bateman, first tenor; Edwin F. Webber, second tenor; Henry A. Cook, baritone; Albert C. Ryder, bass.

The selections sung were: —

"Hurrah for the Field," . . . . . Schmolzer
"Three Huntsmen," . . . . . Kreutzer
"In Absence" . . . . . Buck
"Waltz," . . . . . Lamothe
"Hail, Smiling Morn," . . . . . Spofforth
Vocal March, "Now forward," . . . . . Storch

It is worthy of note that the Woodland Park Hotel has obtained an enviable reputation under the skilful conduct of the proprietor, Joseph Lee, and his estimable wife, who apparently suffer no detriment from the fact of their nativity being of the race so recently emancipated from what was fitly described by the late Senator Sumner as the "Barbarism of Slavery."

DINNER

Woodland Park Hotel

THURSDAY, DEC. 27, 1888.

Two Hundredth Anniversary of the Incorporation of the Town of Newton.

# MENU.

BLUEPOINTS ON HALF SHELL.

MOCK TURTLE. CONSOMME.

TURBOT A LA TARTARE.

ROAST BEEF. ROAST TURKEY.

SADDLE OF MUTTON.

BOILED PHILADELPHIA CAPON, CELERY SAUCE.

POTATO CROQUETTES, ESCALLOPED TOMATOES.

MACARONI AU GRATIN, CELERY.

CHICKEN CROQUETTES, FRENCH PEAS.

ROMAN PUNCH.

MALLARD DUCKS, DRESSED CELERY.

CURRANT JELLY.

LOBSTER SALAD.

FROZEN PUDDING. HARLEQUIN CREAM. CHARLOTTE RUSSE.

ORANGE SHERBET. LEMON SHERBET.

ROQUEFORT AND NEUCHATEL CHEESE.

CRACKERS. OLIVES.

NUTS AND RAISINS. ASSORTED FRUIT.

COFFEE.

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